

In the specification, for example, the high refractive index layer is explained in paragraphs 0018-0020, and the low refractive index layer is explained in paragraphs 0024-0025. Also, in paragraph 0033-0034, it is disclosed that the PET film has a refractive index of 1.65, and the acrylic resin has a refractive index of about 1.51. Further, in Table 1, various high refractive index layers of the invention are shown.

It is also known in the art that the refractive index of a film is determined by refractive indexes of resin and metal oxide particles included in the resin. Thus, the layer with the desired refractive index is obtained by changing the kind of the resin, the kind of the particles and the amount included in the resin. A person skilled in the art can easily make the layer with the desired refractive index, especially based on the disclosure of the invention. Please withdraw the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph.

In paragraph 4 of the Action, claims 1-11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ota et al. in view of Endo et al.

In view of the rejection, claim 1 has been amended. Claims 2-6 have been cancelled, and new claims 12-15 have been filed.

As clearly recited in claim 1, an antireflection film of the invention comprises an organic film, a hard-coating layer laminated on the organic film, a high refractive index layer laminated on the hard-coating layer, and a low refractive index layer laminated on the high refractive index layer.

The high refractive index layer is formed of metal oxide particles of ITO with electrical conductivity and TiO_2 with high refractive index, and synthetic resin. A volume percentage of the TiO_2 particles to a total volume of the TiO_2 and ITO particles in the high refractive index layer is 1 to 60%, and a volume percentage of the metal oxide particles to a total volume of the metal oxide particles and the synthetic resin is 20% or more.

In the invention, in case the amount of the TiO_2 particles is not sufficient, the sufficiently high refractive index is not obtained. On the other hand, in case the amount of ITO particles is not sufficient, a sufficient antistatic property is not

obtained. The combination of ITO and TiO_2 particles with the specific ratio is very important in the invention.

Also, in the invention, in case the volume percentage of the metal oxide particles is too high relative to the synthetic resin, the strength relative to chemicals is lowered. On the other hand, if the volume percentage of the metal oxide particles is too low relative to the synthetic resin, electro conductivity and refractive index can not be sufficiently increased. Therefore, the volume percentage of the metal oxide particles to the synthetic resin is also important.

In Ota et al., an antireflection film comprises a substrate 1, a hard coat layer 2, high refractive index layer 5 and a low refractive index layer 3. The high refractive index layer 5 is formed of a binder resin, and fine particles including TiO_2 , CbO_2 , SnO_2 , ITO and so on. It is said that ArO_2 , ZnO_2 , TiO_2 , and CeO_2 are preferred because of the UV-shielding properties.

In the invention, the high refractive index layer is formed of the metal oxide particles of ITO with electrical conductivity and TiO_2 with high refractive index, and synthetic resin. Although TiO_2 and ITO are disclosed in Ota et al., the combination of the TiO_2 and ITO is not disclosed or suggested.

Especially, in the invention, a volume percentage of the TiO_2 particles to the total volume of the TiO_2 and ITO particles in the high refractive index layer is 1 to 60%. The specific volume percentage is not, of course, disclosed or suggested in Ota et al.

Particularly, the combination of the particles with good electrical conductivity and the particles with high refractive index is not disclosed or suggested in Ota et al.

Accordingly, Ota et al. does not disclose or suggest the features of the invention.

In Endo et al., an ultra fine particle film includes a substrate 71, a layer 72 with high refractive index particles, and a layer 73 with low refractive index particles. As the fine particles, SnO_2 , In_2O_3 , TiO_2 and ZrO_2 , and the mixture thereof may be used. As a combination, SnO_2 + 10 wt% Sb_2O_3 or In_2O_3 + 5wt% SnO_2 are shown.

In the invention, the high refractive index layer is formed of the metal oxide particles of ITO with electrical conductivity and TiO_2 with high refractive index, and synthetic resin. In Endo et al., metal oxide particles and some combinations thereof are shown. However, the combination of ITO and TiO_2 of the invention is not disclosed. Especially, the combination of the particles with good electrical conductivity and the particles with high refractive index is not disclosed or suggested in Endo et al.

Also, in the invention, the volume percentage of the TiO_2 particles to the total volume of the TiO_2 and ITO particles in the high refractive index layer is 1 to 60%. The specific ratio of the TiO_2 and ITO is not disclosed or suggested in Endo et al.

Therefore, Endo et al. does not disclose or suggest the features of the invention.

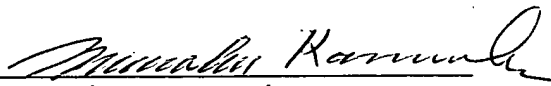
As explained above, the cited references do not disclose or suggest the features of the invention. Even if the cited references are combined, the present invention is not obvious from the cited references.

Reconsideration and allowance are earnestly solicited.

A three month extension of time is hereby requested. A check in the amount of \$930.00 is attached herewith for the three month extension of time.

Respectfully Submitted,

KANESAKA AND TAKEUCHI

By 
Manabu Kanesaka
Reg. No. 31,467
Agent for Applicants

1423 Powhatan Street
Alexandria, VA 22314
(703) 519-9785

Serial No. 09/987,971

1.(amended) An antireflection film comprising:

an organic film[; and],

a hard-coating layer[, a high refractive index layer and a low refractive index layer, which are] laminated on the [surface of said] organic film [in this order],

[said] a high refractive index layer laminated on the hard-coating layer and formed of [including at least two kinds of] metal oxide particles[, and

at least one kind of said particles being electrically conductive] of ITO with electrical conductivity and TiO₂ with high refractive index, a volume percentage of the TiO₂ particles to a total volume of the TiO₂ and ITO particles in the high refractive index layer being 1 to 60%, and synthetic resin, a volume percentage of the metal oxide particles to a total volume of the metal oxide particles and the synthetic resin being 20% or more, and

a low refractive index layer laminated on the high refractive index layer.